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Our reference: IMA / AM
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CONFIRMATION COPY

Dear Examiner Corrielus:

Thank you for agreeing to speak with us on Aug 3rd 2004 at 8 AM (EST).

The reason for us contacting you is to re-establish Allowability of claim 3.

As you may recall, you had allowed claim 3 in the Final Office Action but since had reversed your decision.

Reading your comments on claim 3, we believe we understand your reasoning for initially allowing this claim. Therefore, we intend to clarify the language in claim 3 which we believe formed the basis for your allowance.

Normally, we would not ask to discuss the case at this time, but we believe that it is appropriate at this time since we had amended claim 3 according to your advice to place this application in condition for allowance and indeed we had expected to receive a Notice of Allowance in this case.

In any case, we thank you for both your consideration and time and attach a proposed clarification of claim 3 in advance of our discussion

Much regards,


I. Marc Asperas

IDNR: 4162/V: 99-100 / B-Val

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Claim 3 (previously presented): A data base for storing persistent data corresponding to configuration data that is complete for configuring a terminal, comprising:

a buffer into which is written persistent data to be 5 permanently stored;

a permanent memory connected to the buffer, the permanent memory having at least two storage areas, into which the persistent data is alternately written, each storage area [being structured to store a complete permanent configuration 10 for] storing the configuration data that is complete for configuration of at least one of:

- (a) functions of the terminal
- (b) characteristics of the terminal and,
- (c) cards of the terminal, at least one of the 15 permanent configuration stored having a complete configuration available and being selected for hardware implementation;

wherein the configuration data that is complete for configuration is alternately written into the storage areas

by writing the complete configuration data into one of the storage areas and thereafter a later version of the configuration data is stored in the other storage area such that if the later version is lost during loading, the persistent data that is complete for configuration stored in

the one of the storage areas continues to exist and is recoverable;

and

wherein the data base further comprises a control mechanism with a first application process for management of 30 a first memory controls writing of the data to be persistently stored into the buffer, the data being generated or modified by the first application process alone or also by other application processes running simultaneously with the first application process;

and

wherein for a number of application processes running simultaneously, a control mechanism within the first

application process by exchanging messages with control mechanism with the other application process, control accesses, required for loading the data to be persistently stored, of individual application processes running

5 simultaneously, to the buffer using process identification numbers, entered in a shared memory, of the application processes running simultaneously.